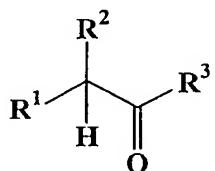


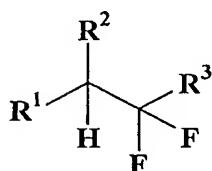
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2), which comprises reacting a compound of the following formula (1) with a compound of the formula X-Z or a compound of the formula Z₂O (wherein Z is a monovalent group which gives a leaving group of the structure -OZ, and X is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or an iodine atom), and then ~~acting~~ further reacting with a fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions thereon to obtain the fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2):



(1)



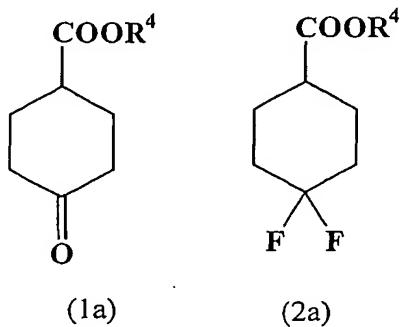
(2)

wherein each of R¹, R² and R³ which are independent of one another, is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group, or two selected from R¹, R² and R³ together form a bivalent organic group, and the other one is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group.

Claim 2 (Original): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is HF.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is ~~acted~~ reacts in the presence of a catalyst.

Claim 4 (Original): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of the formula (1) is a compound of the following formula (1a), and the fluorine containing compound of the formula (2) is a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2a):

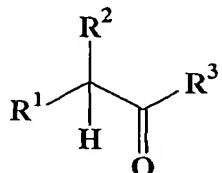


wherein R⁴ is a C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one aryl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one monovalent heterocyclic group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group or a C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl group.

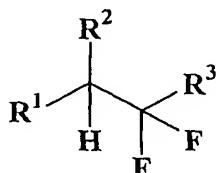
Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound formed by the reaction of the compound of the formula (1) with the compound of the formula X-Z or the compound of the formula Z₂O comprises at least two types of compounds, and the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine atoms is acted on reacts with said at least two types of compounds without isolating them.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2), which comprises reacting a compound of the following formula (1) with a compound X-Z (wherein Z is a monovalent group which gives a leaving group of the structure $-OZ$, and X is a chlorine atom, a bromine atom or an iodine atom) to obtain at least one type of a compound selected from compounds of the following

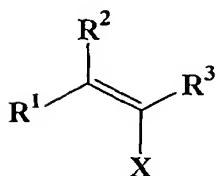
formulae (3) to (7), and then acting reacting a fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions on with said at least one type of a compound to obtain the fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2):



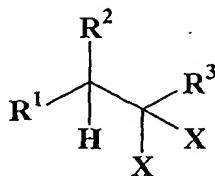
(1)



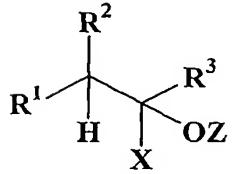
(2)



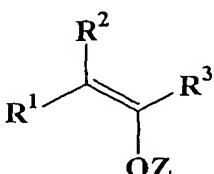
(3)



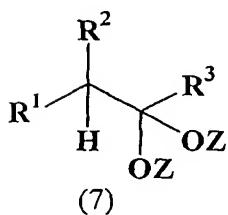
(4)



(5)



(6)



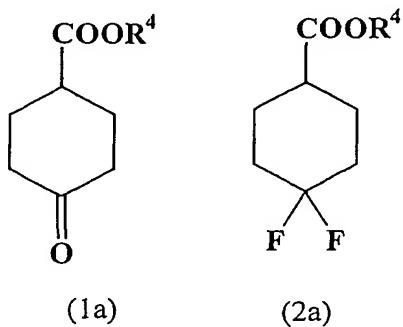
(7)

wherein each of R¹, R² and R³ which are independent of one another, is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group, or two selected from R¹, R² and R³ together form a bivalent organic group, and the other one is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group.

Claim 7 (Original): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is HF.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 6,
wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~is acted~~ reacts in the presence
of a catalyst.

Claim 9 (Original): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the compound of the formula (1) is a compound of the following formula (1a), and the fluorine containing compound of the formula (2) is a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2a):

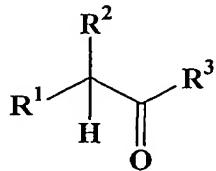


wherein R⁴ is a C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one aryl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one monovalent heterocyclic group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group or a C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl group.

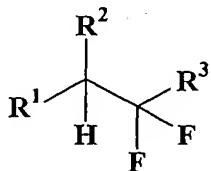
Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 6, wherein the compound formed by the reaction of the compound of the formula (1) with the compound of the formula X-Z or the compound of the formula Z₂O comprises at least two

types of compounds, and the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine atoms is acted on reacts with said at least two types of compounds without isolating them.

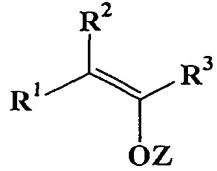
Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2), which comprises reacting a compound of the following formula (1) with a compound of the formula Z_2O (wherein Z is a monovalent group which gives a leaving group of the structure $-OZ$) to obtain at least one type of a compound selected from a compound of the following formula (6) and a compound of the following formula (7), and then acting reacting a fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions on with said at least one type of the compound to obtain the fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2):



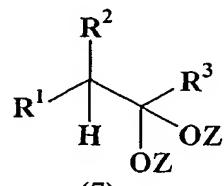
(1)



(2)



(6)



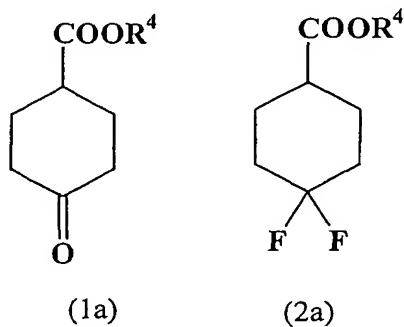
(7)

wherein each of R^1 , R^2 and R^3 which are independent of one another, is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group, or two selected from R^1 , R^2 and R^3 together form a bivalent organic group, and the other one is a hydrogen atom, a fluorine atom or a monovalent organic group.

Claim 12 (Original): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions is HF.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 11,
wherein the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine anions ~~is acted~~ reacts in the presence
of a catalyst.

Claim 14 (Original): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the compound of the formula (1) is a compound of the following formula (1a), and the fluorine containing compound of the formula (2) is a fluorine-containing compound of the following formula (2a):



wherein R⁴ is a C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one aryl group, an alkyl group substituted with at least one monovalent heterocyclic group, an aryl group, a substituted aryl group or a C₁₋₂₀ fluoroalkyl group.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The production process according to Claim 11, wherein the compound formed by the reaction of the compound of the formula (1) with the compound of the formula X-Z or the compound of the formula Z₂O comprises at least two

types of compounds, and the fluorinating agent which generates fluorine atoms ~~is acted on~~
reacts with said at least two types of compounds without isolating them.

Claim 16 (New): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (1) is reacted with the compound of formula X-Z, which compound of formula X-Z is selected from the group consisting of HX, POX₃, PX₅, SOX₂, SO₂X₂, (COX)₂, R⁵COX, R⁵SO₂X and (R⁵O)₃P(O)X, wherein R⁵ is a monovalent organic group.

Claim 17 (New): The production process according to Claim 16, wherein the compound of formula X-Z is selected from the group consisting of POX₃, PX₅, SOX₂, (COX)₂, CH₃COC1, PhCOC1, CH₃CH₂COC1, p-CH₃C₆H₄SO₂C1, CH₃SO₂C1, CF₃SO₂C1, (PhO)₂PO-X, (CH₃CH₂O)₂PO-X and (CH₃O)₂PO-X, wherein Ph is a phenyl group.

Claim 18 (New): The production process according to Claim 17, wherein the compound of formula X-Z is PX₅.

Claim 19 (New): The production process according to Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (1) is reacted with a compound of formula Z₂O, which compound of formula Z₂O is (R⁵CO)₂O or (R⁵SO₂)₂O, wherein R⁵ is a monovalent organic group.

Claim 20 (New): The production process according to Claim 19, wherein the compound of formula Z₂O is (CH₃CO)₂O, (PhCO)₂O or (CF₃SO₂)₂O, wherein Ph is a phenyl group.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

The specification has been amended by replacing the term "acting . . . thereon" with --reaction . . . therewith--. The claims have been amended to be consistent with the above-discussed amendment to the specification. In addition, new Claims 16-20 have been added, and are supported in the specification at page 9, line 4 through page 10, line 12.

No new matter has been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-20 are now pending in the application.